

# THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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10 Cents

## Unearthing of 28 Gold Coins Stirs Widespread Excitement



DON GREENUP (right) points to a muddy spot at the side of his pond site where 28 gold coins were found last week while bulldozers were blading silt to restore the pond. John Venard, manager of the First National Bank, Heppner branch, is an interested spectator. Tractors, one operated by Dick Meador, continue at work in the background, more concerned about restoring the big pond than in the gold. This pond is located about a mile above the Greenup house in a canyon. House and buildings of Press Thompson once stood on the site after he homesteaded here. (G-T Photo).

### Story Brings Calls From All over U. S.

If it were possible for the Don Greenups to take all the money spent in telephone calls made to them on their "gold strike" in exchange for the gold coins found, they might be willing to make the trade.

Following the Associated Press story Friday and other published accounts of the "strike," their telephone rang throughout the week-end. One call came from West Virginia. NBC News called from New York City and another call from NBC News came from Los Angeles.

Since the account was published in "True West" magazine in 1966 about boys finding five gold coins while fishing in the pond on the Greenup place, the family has been the recipient of calls and letters from all over the country. Mr. and Mrs. Greenup evaded some of the harassment by "escaping" to the state A-2 basketball tournament at Coos Bay, their daughter, Terry (Tag) Greenup said. No one was home to answer the phone Monday and Tuesday since Tag works at the First National Bank.

By Tuesday night, all seemed quiet at the "diggings" scene.



TERRYL (TAG) GREENUP took a minute off from her job at the First National Bank to hold five of the 28 gold coins found last week on the ranch of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Greenup. Three at the top are "double eagles"—\$20 gold pieces, and the three at the bottom are \$10 gold pieces. One of the double eagles is worth \$500 to \$600. (G-T Photo).

## Discovery at Greenups' Revives Treasure Story

By WES SHERMAN

Twenty-eight gold coins, ranging from \$5 gold pieces to double eagles (\$20 gold pieces), were unearthed last Thursday while Don Greenup, Dick Meador and others were doing some bulldozing work at a pond site on the Greenup place. The site is about a mile above the Greenups' home, which is 12 miles from Heppner on the Hinton Creek highway.

Discovery of the coins caused a wave of excitement that rippled across the United States. It brought back into the limelight a story that Press Thompson, early settler who homesteaded on this spot, had hidden a small fortune there.

Face value of the gold pieces found last week is \$375, but from a collector's standpoint, the value is far greater. One double eagle, minted in Carson City, Nev., in 1891 is believed to be a rare coin that is worth some \$500 to \$600.

### Wind Doesn't Show

Complete report from Don Gilliam, weather observer, for the week of March 6 through 12 shows only .02 inches of rain and temperature falling below freezing on six consecutive nights. Not shown in the report were the gusty winds that blew early this week. Report is as follows:

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	53	29	—
Thursday	51	31	—
Friday	50	27	—
Saturday	54	26	—
Sunday	55	28	—
Monday	55	28	—
Tuesday	67	38	.02

Apparently this is the third time that gold coins have been found at the pond site. A story written in "True West" magazine by Paul Atkinson in the August, 1966, issue said that a fisherman spotted a double eagle in a foot of water while fishing in the pond that Greenup had constructed.

**Boys Find Coins**  
Some 10 years ago, according to Mrs. Greenup, four boys were going fishing at the pond and while digging for worms on the bank, uncovered five \$5 gold pieces. Three of the boys were Billy Monagle, Jerry Greenup and Raymond Nichols. She could not recall the name of the fourth.

Since the article appeared in "True West" magazine, the Greenups have been almost besieged by would-be treasure hunters, with calls coming from all parts of the United States. They have generally turned down permission for treasure hunting on the place.

The pond was drained about a year ago and silt had washed in. Just a few days ago Greenup started dozing silt in order to restore the pond.

It happened that two treasure hunters from Minnesota arrived at this time and asked permission to search for the treasure. Since Greenup was working there, they were given permission, and he agreed to split any gold found on a 50-50 basis.

The Minnesotans used detecting devices and helped spot the 28 coins which were uncovered by one of the dozers. Greenup said that they were located in a bunch, and that bits of rotten leather, or possibly the remains of an old can, surrounded the

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## Mustangs Bow Out of State Tourney

### Scholarship Awards Go To 4 Seniors

Four outstanding Heppner High school seniors are winners of local scholarships from Heppner lodge No. 358, BPOE, Dale Holland, scholarship chairman for the Elks, announces.

Winners of \$200 scholarships are John Rawlins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Rawlins, and Merri Lee Jacobs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jacobs. Winners of \$100 scholarships are David Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hall, and Marsha Lovgren, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Lovgren.

Miss Jacobs and Rawlins will go to Hood River to participate in northeast district Elks competition for higher scholarship awards, Holland said.

The awards are based on: 1. scholarship; 2. financial need; 3. extra-curricular and out of school activities; 4. personality and leadership; 5. perseverance and resourcefulness.

The scholarship awards will be presented at Commencement on Thursday, May 23.

Rawlins is Heppner High student body president, served as student body vice president last year, and has held class offices through much of his high school years. He has participated in football for four years, basketball for three years, served on the student council for four years and on the executive council for two years. He is active in the Photo club, a member of the National Honor Society, and of Quill and Scroll honorary. He was in the band for two years. Rawlins was American Legion essay contest winner and attended Boys' State in 1967. He has been active in 4-H club work for several years.

Miss Jacobs, who also won the local Elks leadership award for girls, has had a fine record of achievements. Her many activities, including high scholarship, leadership, honors and offices were reported in a recent story on this award.

Hall won the Elks' leadership award for boys, and his many activities were also reported in a story on February 29. He has been outstanding in sports, president of the Future Farmers of America chapter and is a candidate for state president of that organization. Like the others, he has been outstanding in scholarship.

Miss Lovgren has been active in Future Homemakers of America for three years, in Future Business Leaders association for two years, in Girls' League four years. She has worked on the yearbook this year, has been a member of the Pep club for four years and has been a varsity cheerleader for two years.

Marsha has been a member of the National Honor Society for three years and was chosen Girl of the Month for friendliness. She served as class president for a semester as a junior and has held other class and club offices.

### County Water Assistant Hired

Jack Huson of Heppner has been hired by the Morrow county court as an assistant, watermaster in the county. He will work with Jerry Haines, watermaster for District 5, which encompasses Morrow and Umatilla counties.

Action was taken to hire Huson last Wednesday at a meeting of the court when Jack Hynd, Stan Magill and Dick Krebs appeared to ask for water supervision on Willow Creek. They stressed the importance of having a control on the use of the water.

Herman Winter, district attorney, told the court that state law requires that a water supervisor be hired if the irrigators request it. There is provision in the county budget for the purpose.

At the meeting of the Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce on Monday, March 4, Herb Hynd asked the group to support a move for water supervision, and it was voted that a study be made through the organization's agriculture committee.



JOHN RAWLINS



MERRI LEE JACOBS



DAVID HALL



MARSHA LOVGREN

## Team Loses by 'Whisker' To No. 1 Rogue River

(SEE SCORING CHART, PAGE 6)

Only 46 seconds stood between the amazing Heppner High Mustangs and victory over vaunted Rogue River, ranked No. 1 of A-2 teams in Oregon, Monday night in the first round of play at the state A-2 basketball tournament in Coos Bay.

But Gary Shontz, 6-3 all-state junior center for the Chieftains, capped an astounding record-setting 40-point production with seven points in the last 45 seconds of that rousing ball game to snatch victory from defeat for his southern Oregon squad, 66 to 60. Shontz eclipsed a previous individual one-game scoring record of 35 points by Derrald Mann of Pleasant Hill in 1965.

The Mustangs, in the familiar role of being overlooked in pre-tournament predictions, came within a whisker of chopping down the Rogue River five. They held a 60-59 lead with 1:05 to go after David Hall scored on a layin. Earlier in the fourth period they had gone in front as much as four points when John McCabe, a real hero for the Mustangs with his sparkling play, broke a 48-48 tie at the start of the fourth on two quick field goals, one a jumper and the other a layin from Hall's neat feed.

Don Dimick cut the margin to two on a pair of free throws, and the unstoppable Shontz tied the count at 52-52 on a tipin.

Cal Ashbeck tallied for Heppner on a tipin of his own at 6:09 to play to give Heppner the lead once more, but Shontz came back with a jumper from the free throw line. A few seconds later he connected on two gift tosses, and the Chieftains were in front, 56-54.

Bill McLeod entered the do-or-die picture at this point, hitting on a turnaround jump from the key and jumping another from the free throw stripe. This put Heppner back in front, 58 to 56.

### Loss Opportunity

The Mustangs lost their opportunity to clinch the contest when both Russ Kilkenny and McLeod missed on free throw attempts. Heppner's big center, who turned in a fine performance in the game getting 10 rebounds and tallying 12, missed on a one-and-one, and Mc-

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## Eagles Claw Heppner Five In Consolation

Waterloo for the Heppner High basketball team in the state A-2 tournament at Coos Bay came in the form of the Stayton Eagles Tuesday afternoon. Playing tight defensive ball, the Eagles hobbled the Mustangs, 60 to 43, and knocked the Greater Oregon champions out of the tournament.

Rogue River, which topped Heppner 66 to 60 Monday night, was to play Sutherlin, winners over Stayton in the opening round 60-41, in one Tuesday night contest. Yamhill-Carlton, which disposed of last year's champs, Reedsport, 64-62, Monday, was to meet Pleasant Hill, 59 to 54 victor over Clatskanie in the first round, Tuesday afternoon in the other championship semi-final.

Clatskanie faced Reedsport in the consolation bracket opposite Heppner-Stayton, and the winner was to meet the Eagles for the consolation title Wednesday afternoon.

In the Stayton game, Bill McLeod grabbed the opening tipoff and had a basket in seconds. This was followed by a free throw by Russ Kilkenny, and the Mustangs had their only lead of the game.

Stayton soon tied it up and moved away quickly, rolling to a 16-9 first quarter lead. The Mustangs, apparently tired from their late night, exhausting game against Rogue River, couldn't find the basket and their fast break was effectively (Continued on page 5)

## Camille Malcom Named Princess Of Spray Court

Camille Malcom, daughter of Mrs. Barney Malcom of Heppner, has been chosen as a princess for the Spray Rodeo, together with Diane Ashmead of Spray and Deanna White of John Day, it was announced following a meeting of the rodeo association at Spray recently.

The girls will sell tickets on a saddle to be given away during the rodeo. The one who sells the most tickets will be queen and the other two will be princesses in the court.

Don Griffith was reelected president of the association, Jerry Beach was elected vice-president, Lyle Billing was reelected secretary and Joann Griffith was reelected treasurer.

Dates for the rodeo this year are May 18 and 19 with performances in the afternoons. There will be a Queen's dance on the Friday night, followed by the first rodeo parade Saturday morning. A rodeo performance will be Saturday afternoon and a rodeo dance Saturday night with the Western Gentlemen furnishing music for both dances.

On Sunday morning another rodeo parade will be held, followed by the final performances of the rodeo.

Howard Johnson of Condon will be stock contractor. At the convention of the Northwest Rodeo association Johnson's saddle bronc, Firedancer, was chosen by the cowboys as Saddle Bronc of the Year, and his bareback horse, Orphan Annie, was chosen Bareback of the Year.

John Irwin of Salkum, Wash., will be clown for the 2-day rodeo.

The Spray rodeo is approved by the Northwest Rodeo Association and NRA champions of 1967 are expected to be on hand.

### Cheerleaders Win Coos Bay Tourney

Heppner won one tournament at Coos Bay, anyhow! Cheerleaders (plus one) of the Mustangs entered a bowling tournament sponsored for entertainment of the high school kids at the A-2 basketball meet.

Heppner cheerleaders won by a wide margin, according to Kit Anderson, representative of the Gazette-Times at the basketball tournament. He told of it in a telephone report following the game with Stayton.

The girls will receive a fine big trophy to be presented before the basketball meet goes into history, Kit said.

## Meeting Called For Water Users

Jerry Haines, watermaster for District 5, which encompasses Umatilla and Morrow counties, announces there will be a meeting on Tuesday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the circuit court room of the Morrow county courthouse of the Willow Creek and Rhea Creek and tributary water users.

Purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the water rights and administration of those rights and explanation of the hiring of an assistant for the area. Representative of the State Engineer's office will be present.

All water users are urged to be present and any other interested persons are invited.

## Ione Garden Club Proposes Desert Memorial Drive

Ione's Garden club has proposed the designation of the bomb range road and has offered cooperation, according to Mrs. Lloyd Johnson and Mrs. Omar Rietmann, who are in charge of the project for the club.

As proposed, the club plans to erect an appropriate sign at the junction of the Memorial Drive with the Interstate highway, calling tourists' attention to the drive. The club expects to clean up debris along the route and hopes to establish a turnaround and perhaps other facilities at the Old Oregon Trail crossing.

They have been assured of getting assistance of a plant ecologist in naming and labeling flora along the road. Both Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Rietmann have examined some of the plant life and trees and are surprised at the variety.

They met with a committee from the Chamber of Commerce, and the latter organization is giving study to developing other scenic routes in the county.

Oscar Peterson, former county judge, is chairman of a committee with this in mind. Members are Jerry Sweeney, Judge Paul Jones, Mrs. Avon Melby, Jack VanWinkle and Orville Cutsforth.

At the meeting, Judge Jones said that the county is in the process of selecting a few roads on which litter barrels will be placed.

Some discussion was given to the possibility of providing mile posts along main routes, and also of the possibility of producing at some time in the future a brochure that would call tourists' attention to scenic routes and attractions in the county.

## Helen Salter Hurt In Auto Accident

Helen Salter of Ione suffered painful injuries Saturday morning when her car went out of control, apparently from a flat tire, and overturned on the curves just south of Lexington.

Miss Salter, a nurse's aide at the hospital in Heppner, had just left her shift at 7 a.m. and was going home when the accident occurred.

She suffered rather serious injuries to her left hand. A finger and the thumb were broken and a skin graft may be required to the back of the hand. She also suffered lacerations and bruises.

Miss Salter still remains at the hospital as a patient and probably will be there until this week-end at least.

Her Volkswagen auto was severely damaged. Miss Salter lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Salter, Ione.